

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Robert F. Rioux, et al.

Examiner: Brian E. Pellegrino

Serial No.: 09/935,487

Art Unit: 3738

Filed: August 23, 2001

Confirmation No.: 1401

For: **MAINTAINING AN OPEN PASSAGEWAY THROUGH A BODY LUMEN**

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**MAIL STOP AF**

**FILED ELECTRONICALLY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22310-1450

**REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

In response to the Office Action dated February 7, 2008, the deadline for response being May 7, 2008, the Applicants submit the following Amendments and Remarks.

If extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.